






# Agenda Overview



## DAY 1

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

5:00 AM - 6:00 AM	<b>Arrive at Lafayette Regional Airport (LFT)</b>
6:00 AM	<b>All guests must be checked in and past security checkpoint</b>
7:00 AM	<b>Depart for Grand Rapids, MI via chartered flight from Lafayette Regional Airport</b>
10:30 AM	<b>Chartered flight arrival at Gerald R. Ford International Airport (GRR)</b>
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM	 <b>Tour:</b> Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park / Lunch
12:45 PM - 1:00 PM	<b>Welcome to Grand Rapids: A Greeting from Grand Rapids Mayor Rosalynn Bliss</b> Location: Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park – North Events Room
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	 <b>Opening Session: Grand Rapids: Intentional Action Leads to Success</b> Location: Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park – North Events Room <b>Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Randy Thelen, President &amp; CEO, The Right Place</li><li>• Andy Johnston, SVP of Advocacy &amp; Strategic Engagement, Grand Rapids Chamber</li></ul>
2:45 PM - 3:45 PM	 <b>Session: Fostering Quality Housing for All</b> Location: Founders Brewing Co. – Centennial Room <b>Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Brooke Oosterman, Executive Director, Housing Next</li><li>• Ryan Kilpatrick, Lead Consultant, Housing Next</li></ul>  <b>Tour: Enjoy “Beer City USA”:</b> Tour of Founders Brewing Co.
4:15 PM - 5:00 PM	 <b>Check In:</b> JW Marriott Hotel – Downtown Grand Rapids
5:00 PM - 5:30 PM	<b>Meet and Greet with Grand Rapids Leadership</b> Location: Grand Rapids Art Museum
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM	<b>Opening Night Reception</b> Location: Grand Rapids Art Museum

## DAY 2

Thursday, September 19, 2024

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	<b>Breakfast</b> Location: DeVos Place – Grand Gallery Meeting Room AB
8:30 AM - 9:00 AM	 <b>Session: Grand Rapids’ Bold Vision to be a Midwest Tech Hub</b> Location: DeVos Place – Grand Gallery Meeting Room AB <b>Speaker:</b> TaRita Johnson, SVP of Talent & Diversity, The Right Place
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	 <b>Session: About Medical Mile and the Medical Innovation Center</b> Location: DeVos Place – Grand Gallery Meeting Room AB <b>Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jerry Kooiman, Assistant Dean for External Relations, MSU College of Human Medicine and Chief External Relations Officer for MSU Office of Health Sciences</li><li>• Jerry Callahan, Strategy Consultant, Van Andel Institute (VAI)</li><li>• Laurie Placinski, VP for Design, Real Estate &amp; Partnerships, BAMF Health</li><li>• Tom Ross, President &amp; CEO, Grand River Aseptic Manufacturing (GRAM)</li><li>• Randy Thelen, President &amp; CEO, The Right Place</li><li>• Janet Wyllie, Senior Program Manager, The Bridge – Spartan Innovations</li></ul>

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DAY 2		Thursday, September 19, 2024
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM	<b>Transition to Grand Rapids Chamber Office</b> Location: 250 Monroe Ave NW, Suite 150, Grand Rapids, MI 49503	
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM	 <b>Session: <i>The History and Vision of Downtown Grand Rapids</i></b> Location: Grand Rapids Chamber Office <b>Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tim Kelly, President &amp; CEO, Downtown Grand Rapids, Inc.</li> <li>• Kara Wood, Executive Director, Grand Action 2.0</li> <li>• Mark Washington, City Manager, City of Grand Rapids</li> <li>• Catlin Whittington, Executive Director, ArtPrize</li> <li>• Richard App, Retail Retention &amp; Attraction Specialist, Grand Rapids Chamber</li> </ul>	
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	<b>Lunch</b> Location: JW Marriott Grand Rapids Boxed lunches available for pick-up in the JW Marriott Omihachiman Room	
1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	 <b>Tours: Explore Grand Rapids via optional tours (<i>Medical Mile Tour, Downtown Grand Rapids Walking Tour, or free time</i>)</b>	
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	<b>Experience ArtPrize and Tech Week (optional) / Free Time</b> Guided ArtPrize Tour available from 3:30-4:30 p.m. (optional; limited space available)	
5:15 PM - 5:30 PM	<b>Bus Loading for John Ball Zoo</b>	
6:00 PM - 8:30 PM	<b>Dinner at John Ball Zoo's Bissell Tree House</b>	
9:00 PM - 11:00 PM	<b>Woodrow's DuckPin Bowling (optional)</b>	
DAY 3		Friday, September 20, 2024
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	<b>Check Out</b> (luggage storage in the JW Marriott Omihachiman Room)	
7:30 AM - 8:30 AM	<b>Breakfast</b> Location: Amway Grand Plaza Hotel – Atrium Room	
8:30 AM - 10:00 AM	 <b>Closing Session: <i>Leading the Community Forward</i></b> Location: Amway Grand Plaza Hotel – Atrium Room <b>Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mayor Rosalynn Bliss, City of Grand Rapids</li> <li>• Carol Van Andel, Executive Director, David &amp; Carol Van Andel Family Foundation</li> <li>• Shawn Crowley, Co-CEO, Atomic Object</li> </ul>	
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	<b>Facilitated Group Debrief</b> Location: Amway Grand Plaza Hotel – Atrium Room	
11:00 AM - 11:40 PM	<b>Lunch / Closing Remarks</b> Location: Amway Grand Plaza Hotel – Atrium Room	
11:40 AM - 12:00 PM	<b>Bus Loading for GRR</b>	
12:00 PM	<b>Depart hotel for Gerald R. Ford International Airport (GRR)</b>	
2:30 PM	<b>Chartered flight departs from Gerald R. Ford International Airport (GRR)</b>	
3:45 PM	<b>Chartered flight arrives at Lafayette Regional Airport (LFT)</b>	